



Prevention of contraction or spread of COVID-19 policy

Griffin Court

Matrix has followed all government advice to make the building Covid secure; some of the measures we have taken are listed below.

The burden of responsibility falls to you as students to adhere to all the measures stipulated and to take individual responsibility for yourself and others.

Vaccination

The government advice is that if students have not done so that they take up the offer of both doses of vaccination.

LFT Testing

All students (and tutors) are required to do a Lateral Flow test twice in the week before each teaching unit allowing enough time for a confirmatory PCR test if you have a positive Lateral Flow test. This means for Blue and Green groups the tests should be done on Monday and Thursday and for the Pink groups, Saturday and Tuesday. If you test twice a week for another reason on slightly different days this is okay as long as they are in the week before the unit.

It is very important that, when testing at home, test results are reported online to NHS Test and Trace whether positive, negative or void. Reporting results helps the NHS monitor the spread of the virus, combat the virus and save lives.

If a student or staff member has recently (within 90 days) tested positive for COVID-19, they are likely to have developed some immunity. If a student or staff member has had a confirmed positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test for COVID-19 in the last 90 days, they do not need to be tested again within that time period if they are asymptomatic. They are still required to follow the national guidance for adults who have been identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case, even if this is within the 90 day window.

If you have a medical or other reason that prevents you from engaging in LFD testing, you should talk to the Principal about alternatives.

Attendance

No one may come to either building if they have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 which are:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature (above 37.8C)
- a loss of, or change in, the normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia)

Anyone displaying these symptoms must isolate at home and should arrange to have a PCR test to see if they have COVID-19.

Students who are unsure if they should attend the training must contact their Programme Lead (PL) as soon as possible to discuss. If you are in doubt please do not come.

It may also be the case that a student may still be unable to attend because they are:

- self-isolating or living with someone who is and/or has had symptoms or a positive test result themselves
- a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)

Please see the Covid outbreak policy for further information.

Face coverings

Face coverings are no longer advised for students, staff and visitors either in teaching rooms or in communal areas.

If there is an outbreak the director of public health might advise that face coverings should temporarily be worn in communal areas or teaching rooms (by students, staff and visitors, unless exempt).

HEPA Purifier

The SAGE committee's [research report on air purifiers](#), suggests the installation of air purifiers where ventilation is poor and it's not possible to improve by other means. Whilst we can ventilate most of the buildings we think safety will be increased by the air purifiers so we have installed a HEPA purifier filter in each of the training rooms and the café area and will continue to keep windows open where possible.

Cleaning

We have enhanced cleaning measures, including more frequent cleaning of rooms and shared areas that are used by students.

The building will be cleaned between groups.

Attendance

80% attendance is required in order to pass the year.

If the training day is unable to run for any reason (for instance bad weather, or in exceptional circumstances, tutor unavailability) the absence will not count against attendance. If you are required to self-isolate absence will also not count. Please send your PL evidence that you are required to self-isolate.

In general, any other reason for absence will count against the percentage. However, in this exceptional Covid-19 situation the Principal will have discretion to consider individual circumstances.

This guidance may evolve and any new guidance will be communicated via Moodle.

Matrix are committed to ensuring the health and safety of all students, staff and visitors at all times. We all have a part to play to ensure that our facilities can remain open safely to allow us to continue to deliver high quality teaching.

Student agreement

We ask students to commit to the following:

- I will not enter the building if I feel unwell or if I should be self-isolating after being exposed to someone with the virus, in line with public health guidance
- I will go straight home if I feel unwell
- I will always respect and maintain social distancing both in and out of the building
- I will sanitise my hands frequently during my time in the building
- I will follow any instructions from tutor team staff that aim to keep us all safe
- I understand that I may be asked to leave the building if I do not follow the guidelines.

Staff agreement

- We will not come into work if we are unwell or if we should be self-isolating after being exposed to someone with the virus, in line with public health guidance
- We will go straight home if we feel unwell
- We will always respect and maintain social distancing when in and out of work
- We will leave workstations clear and wiped down at the end of the day
- We will sanitise our hands frequently during my time in the building
- We will ensure that appropriate risk assessments are in place, adhered to and that these are shared and reviewed regularly

- We will keep these steps under review, and if any of us have concerns, or ideas for improvement, we will raise them appropriately
- We will follow the latest guidance on quarantining books and other loaned items and sanitising computers and other IT equipment
- We will respect and value each other and follow these